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ELEVATOR TECHNICAL CLARIFICATION

TO: Elevator Inspectors

FROM: Becky Ernstes
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SUBJECT: Clarification of Machine Room Venting

Section 3005 of the 1997 Uniform Building Code "When solid state equipment is used to operate the elevators, the elevator equipment room shall be provided with an ***independent*** ventilation or air-conditioning system to prevent overheating of the electrical equipment. The operating temperature shall be established by the elevator equipment manufacturer's specifications. When standby power is connected to elevators, the machine room ventilation or air-conditioning shall be connected to standby.

The elevator section of L&I will not accept systems that are not independent. If an air-conditioner is used it must be for the elevator machine room only.

If an air exchange is used it must not exhaust into or draw air from other parts of the building.

In the future we will attempt to put the numbers for maintaining machine room temperatures, from 50 to 100 degrees into the amendments to the building code. At that time, due to the outside temperatures in Washington most machine rooms will have conditioned air.

Machine rooms located in underground parking garages must have a means to exhaust air from the machine room.